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In re application of

JANICE D. DENSON et al.

Application No. 09/765,039

Filed: January 19, 2001

Docket No. 12913.101

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC

BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED

TRANSACTIONS

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)

Applicants hereby petition the United States Patent and Trademark Office to file the above-identified application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) with a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.63 signed by less than all of the named inventors. More particularly,

1. There are seven named inventors of the present application. Each is listed below in this paragraph, together with his or her last known address:

Janice D. Denson, 1045 Mason Street, Unit 202, San Francisco, CA 94108;

Bernard J. Lidestri, 165 Henry Street, Manchester, MA 06040;

Gregory D. Manoni, 300 Cold Spring Road, Apt. C409, Rocky Hill, CT 06067;

Jerry Ahart, 220 A Shamrock Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903;

Michael J. Caughey, 6419 Hackney Circle, Richmond, VA 23234;

Tamara O. Petroff, 74 Wood Pond Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033;

Brandon Curiel, 427 Boston Street, Guilford, CT 06437.

2. A Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application was mailed by the

PTO on March 2, 2001, stating that a filing date was granted, and requiring an oath or declaration,

07/03/2001 TLUU11 00000003 500709 09765039

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Doc. 635814

and a substitute specification (because of improper margins in the original). (The substitute specification is attached to and filed concurrent with this Petition.)

- 3. Based on the verified statement of pertinent facts submitted by the attached Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) of Dorene Robotti, Applicants submit that six of the seven named joint inventors refuse to sign the Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.63. One of the named joint inventors, Brandon Curiel, has signed the Declaration, and the original of the same is attached with this Petition.
- Based on the attached Declaration under 37 C.F.F. § 1.63 being signed by one of the named inventors and the remaining inventors refusing to sign, as established by the verified statement of pertinent facts submitted by the attached Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) of Dorene Robotti, Applicants hereby respectfully petition for ,and request, filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a).
- 5. Applicants have stated in ¶2 of this Petition the last known address of each of the non-signing inventors, which are all of the inventors with the exception of Brandon Curiel.
- Please charge the filing fee of \$130.00, and any additional fees, to Deposit Account 6. 50-0709. A duplicate of this sheet is submitted for this purpose. The Response to the Notice to File Missing Parts and Request for Extension of Time are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 35,371

PATTON BOGGS LLP

2550 M Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20037

(202) 457-6491

Dated: July 2, 2001

Doc. 635814

In re application of]	
JANICE D. DENSON et al.]] 1	Docket No. 12913.101
Application No. 09/765,039]	
Filed: January 19, 2001	.]	
	J	

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED

TRANSACTIONS

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)

I, DORENE E. ROBOTTI, declare that I am General Counsel of iSolve Incorporated, a Delaware corporation with a business address at 281 Tresser Boulevard, Two Stamford Plaza, 7th Floor, Stamford, CT 06901, (hereinafter "iSolve") and that I am authorized to make this declaration on behalf of iSolve and, on firsthand knowledge unless otherwise stated or made clear from the context, I further declare that:

- 1. On January 19, 2001, a nonprovisional application entitled Method and Apparatus for Electronic Business Postings and Negotiated Transactions, was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO"), and has since been assigned Serial No.09/765,039 (hereinafter "the present application"). The present application was filed without an oath or declaration.
- 2. The present application claims priority from, and is based on U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127.
- 3. There are seven named inventors of the present application, and these are the named inventors of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127. Each is listed below in this paragraph, together with his or her last known address:

Janice D. Denson, 1045 Mason Street, Unit 202, San Francisco, CA 94108;
Bernard J. Lidestri, 165 Henry Street, Manchester, MA 06040;
Gregory D. Manoni, 300 Cold Spring Road, Apt. C409, Rocky Hill, CT 06067;
Jerry Ahart, 220 A Shamrock Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903;
Michael J. Caughey, 6419 Hackney Circle, Richmond, VA 23234;
Tamara O. Petroff, 74 Wood Pond Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033;
Brandon Curiel, 427 Boston Street, Guilford, CT 06437.

- 4. iSolve is the assignee of the present application by the terms of the assignment of executed by each of the seven named inventors of the present application. The assignment was filed in the PTO for recordation on March 27, 2000 by Applicants' previous counsel. A true copy of the assignment, as filed, is attached as Exhibit A.
- 5. A Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application was mailed by the PTO on March 2, 2001, stating that a filing date was granted, and requiring an oath or declaration, and a substitute specification (because of improper margins in the original). (The substitute specification is attached to and filed concurrent with this Declaration.)
- 6. To expedite a proper and timely response to the Notice to File Missing Parts, iSolve sent by U.S. Postal Service certified mail, on March 30, 2001, to each of the seven named inventors at their last known addresses, a true copy of the original application, as filed, and a Declaration, with a cover letter requesting execution and return of the Declaration for filing in the USPTO. A true copy of each of the cover letters, as mailed, with a photostatic copy of the certified mail proof-of-mailing, is attached as Exhibit B.

- 7. iSolve received proof-of-receipt of the certified mailing identified in ¶ 6 from all of the named inventors except for the following two: Jerry Ahart and Tamara Petroff. A copy of each proof-of-receipt (five) and the two "Return to Sender" notices is attached as Exhibit C.
- 8. With respect to the two named inventors identified in ¶ 7 for which it received no proof-of-receipt, iSolve received an e-mail from Jerry Ahart on April 13, 2001, and an e-mail from Tamara Petroff on April 14, 1001, each providing iSolve a new mailing address for the respective inventor. A hard copy of these e-mails is attached as Exhibit D. In response, iSolve mailed a true copy of the present application and a Declaration to Mr. Ahart and Ms. Petroff. See Exhibit E.
- 9. On April 13, 2001, iSolve was CC'd on an e-mail, see Exhibit F, from Bernie Lidestri, one of the seven named inventors of the present application. The Exhibit F e-mail from Mr. Lidestri shows addresses of persons, or e-mail monikers thereof, which appear to include those of each of the remaining six named inventors. As shown in Exhibit F stated:

"DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING YET.

I need to get a copy to our legal counsel first. I'll get back to you once I hear from legal."

- 10. On April 24, 2001, iSolve received a voice mail from Bernie Lidestri explaining that the legal department was still looking over the materials and he would follow up with them shortly. That was the last communication iSolve received from Mr. Lidestri.
- 11. iSolve received an executed, but marked-up, Declaration from Brandon Curiel in response to the mailing on March 30, 2001 identified in ¶ 6. The mark-up constitutes a change of address and nothing more. See Exhibit G.
- 12. On June 5, 2001, having received no further communication from any of the named inventors, iSolve sent by U.S. Postal certified mail, with a cover letter, a true copy of the present

Doc. 635814

application, as filed, and a Declaration for review and signature to each of the seven named inventors. A copy of each of the cover letters and its proof-of-mailing is attached as Exhibit H.

- 13. iSolve received a proof-of-receipt of the certified mailing identified in ¶ 12 from all of the named inventors except for the following: Michael J. Caughey and Tamara O. Petroff. Ms. Petroff's letter was returned as undeliverable. A copy of each proof-of-receipt that we have received is attached as Exhibit I.
- 14. Mr. Curiel returned the Declaration to iSolve's counsel in an executed state. A true copy of this executed Declaration is attached as Exhibit J, with the original attached to Applicants Response to the Notice to File Missing Parts filed concurrently with this Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.41(a).
- 15. None of the seven named inventors other than Mr. Curiel responded to the June 5, 2001 certified mailings identified in ¶ 12 above. Other than receiving the executed Declarations from Mr. Curiel, as identified in ¶ ¶ 11 and 14 above, iSolve has received no communication from the named inventors, directly or indirectly, since the April 24, 2001 voice mail identified in ¶ 10 above.
- 16. I and iSolve reasonably believe, and respectfully conclude, based on the facts above that the attached Exhibit F documented communication, received more than two months ago (April 13, 2001) from one of the named inventors, instructing all of the remaining named inventors to "NOT" sign the Declaration, followed by more than two months of the non-signing inventor's clear, continuing, silence, *notwithstanding* the *second* transmittal from iSolve (June 5, 2001), constitutes a *refusal*, by each, to sign within the meaning of 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a).
- 17. The undersigned further declares that all statements made herein of her own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and, further, that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made

are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this Declaration or the Registration referred to herein.

ORENE E. ROBOTTI

General Counsel iSolve, Incorporated

Date: June 29, 200/

Attorney Docket No. _109593.114

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Janice D. Denson, et al.

Serial No.:

60/176,127

Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed:

01/14/00

Group Art Unit:

Title:

MANAGING COMPUTER-BASED COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Assignments, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231 on the date set forth below.

March 27, 2000 Date Rochelle Harper

Box Assignments

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER OF ASSIGNMENT

Sir:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-referenced provisional patent application are the following documents:

- 1. Assignment.
- 2. Form PTO-1595 (Recordation Form Cover Sheet).
- 3. Return postcard.

The Commissioner is authorized to debit any underpayment or credit any overpayment in connection with this matter to Deposit Account No. <u>08-0219</u>.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 27, 2000

Hale and Dorr LLP 60 State Street Boston, Massachusetts 02109 (617) 526-6010 (Telephone) (617) 526-5000 (Facsimile) Jason A. Reyes Registration No. 41,513

Attorney for Applicants

EXHIBIT A

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box +

PTO/SB/02A (11-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

DECLARATION

ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)
Supplemental Sheet
Page 3 of 3

Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor				
Given Name (first and middle [if an	y])	Family Name	or Surname			
Michael James		Caughey				
Inventor's Signature			Date			
Residence: City Richmond	State VA	Country US	Citizenship US			
Mailing Address 6419 Hackney Circle						
Mailing Address						
city Richmond	State VA	ZIP 23234 Co.	_{untry} US			
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if a	ny:	A petition has been filed fo	r this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if an	y]) ·	Family Name of	or Surname			
Tamara Olga		Petroff				
Inventor's Signature			Date			
Residence: City Glastonbury	State CT	Country US	Citizenship US			
Mailing Address 74 Wood Pond Road						
Mailing Address						
City Glastonbury	State CT	ZIP 06033	Country			
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if a	ny:	☐ A petition has been filed for	this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Nan	ne or Surname			
Brandon	\wedge	Curiel				
Inventor's Signature	D		Date 6/11/01			
Residence: City Guilford	State CT	Country US	Citizenship			
Mailing Address 427 Boston Street						
Mailing Address						
Guilford.	State CT	06437	US			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Denson, Janice D.

12913.101

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

PTO/SB/01 (03-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR

DESIGN

PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket Number

First Named Inventor

(37 CFR 1	.63)	Application Nun	nber	09/765,039				
Declaration X	Declaration	Filing Date	J	lanuary 19, 2001				
Submitted OR with Initial	Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge	Submitted after Initial	Group Art Unit					
Filing	(37 ČFR 1.16 (e)) required)	Examiner Name)					
As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:								
My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.								
I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:								
Method and Apparatus for Electronic Business Postings and Negotiated Transactions								
the specification of which	(Title of the	e Invention)						
<u>.</u>								
X is attached hereto								
OR								
was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)		as United St	ates Application I	Number or PCT International				
								
Application Number	and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).							
I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.								
I acknowledge the duty to disclose in-part applications, material inform PCT international filing date of the	nation which became avail	ilable between the filing	defined in 37 CFI date of the prior	R 1.56, including for continuation- application and the national or				
I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.								
Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached? YES NO				
	-							
Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:								

FORM PTG-1595 (MOD	IFIED)	REC	ORDA	TION FOR	M CC	VER S	HEET		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office
(Rev. 6-93) OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp	o. 4/94)		P	ATENTS	ON	LY			
Tab settings		¥	Z.	Z.	V		Z	X	
To the	ne Honorable Comm	nissioner (of Patents an	d Trademarks: I	Please rec	cord the att	ached origi	nal docu	iments or copy thereof.
Execution Date: March 1. Application number If this documents of the control of	conveying party conveying party nce: eement h 1, 2000 er(s) or patent nu	Chamber(s)	erger ange of N	ame 	on, the	Name: internal a Street Additional Additional	Solve Inc Address: ddress: mford Sal name(s	State: (2) & ad	pplication is:
A. Patent Ap 60/176,12	oplication No.(s) 27)	Addition	al numbers atta		Patent N			
Name and address: document should Name: Jason A. R Internal Address: Street Address: 60 City:Boston	be mailed. Reyes Hale And Dorr O State Street	LLP	_	e concerning	6.	Total nu	umber of	applic	ations and patents involved:
•					7.	To	tal fee (3'	7 CFR	3.41)\$40.00
						Che pape	arge any r or durii	additi	ge fees to Deposit Account onal fees associated with this pendancy of this application, or tent, to deposit account.
						Deposit(account 1 08-0219	numbe	
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the original a	f my knowledge o locument.	and beli	}	1	0	is true ar	nd correc	t and	any attached copy is a true copy of
Jason A. Rey	es Person Signing		Va	Signa Signa	ture	<u> </u>			<u>March 27, 2000</u> Date
, tame of 1			0	ation No.			achments, a	ınd docu	iment:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, JANICE D. DENSON, residing in Stamford, Connecticut, USA; BERNARD J. LIDESTRI, residing in Manchester, Connecticut, USA; GREGORY D. MANONI, residing in Rocky Hill, Connecticut, USA; JERRY AHART, residing in Charlottesville, VA, USA; MICHAEL J. CAUGHEY, residing in Richmond, Virginia, USA; TAMARA O. PETROFF, residing in Vernon, Connecticut, USA; and BRANDON CURIEL, residing in Hamden, Connecticut, USA hereinafter referred to as the assignors, are the inventors of certain inventions for which we have made a provisional patent application identified as U.S. Serial No. 60/176,127, filed on January 14, 2000 entitled "MANAGING COMPUTER-BASED COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS"; and

WHEREAS, ISOLVE INCORPORATED, hereinafter referred to as the assignee, of 281 Tresser Boulevard, Two Stamford Plaza, 7th Floor, Stamford, CT 06901, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the said inventions or improvements and in and to the said application, and in, to and under any and all Letters Patent which may be granted as a result thereof in any and all countries:

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we the undersigned parties, by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto ISOLVE INCORPORATED, its successors and assigns the full, exclusive and worldwide right, title and interest to the said inventions including the United States of America, and the entire right, title and interest in said application, and in, to and under any and all Letters Patent which may be granted on said inventions, or any parts thereof, or on any continuation, division, reissue, conversion, or extension thereof in the United States of America, in the territorial possessions of the United States of America and in any country foreign to the United States of America including all rights of priority under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, the same to be held and enjoyed by ISOLVE INCORPORATED, its successors, and assigns as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by us, had this assignment not been made.

And we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States of America and respective Patent Office officials in any country foreign to the United States of America to issue said Letters Patent to said ISOLVE INCORPORATED as the assignee of our entire right, title and interest in, to and under the same, and we hereby further authorize ISOLVE INCORPORATED to apply for Letters Patent in our name or in its own name, as it in its sole discretion sees fit, utilizing any benefits which may exist under any International Agreement, in any country foreign to the United States of America.

And we, do hereby agree for ourselves and for our heirs, executors and administrators to execute any lawful document and to testify as to any material fact or thing which ISOLVE INCORPORATED, its successors and assigns may deem necessary in order to secure unto itself, its successors and assigns the full right, title and interest in and to and the full enjoyment of said inventions or any part thereof and any Letters Patent, the same to be done without any further consideration.

	JANICE D. DENSON
	DATE:
JANICE D. DENSON to me poexecuted the foregoing assignment	, 2000, before me personally came the above-named ersonally known and known to me to be the same individual who nent, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was for the use and purposes therein set forth.
	Notary Public:
	My commission expires:

degreetere person by northing 12/28

	Senard J. Lidest
B	ERNARD J. VIDESTRI
D.	ATE: 3/1/2000
above-named BERNARD J. LIDESTRI to m	, 2000, before me personally came the ne personally known and known to me to be going assignment, and who acknowledged at person's own free will for the use and

Notary Public:
My/commission expires: 6/80/001

	GREGORY D. MANONI
,st	DATE: 3/1)2000
the same individual who executed the f	, 2000, before me personally came the to me personally known and known to me to be foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged that person's own free will for the use and
	Notary Public: My commission expires: 613012001

Chy & White
JERRY AHART
DATE: March 2000
On this day of Mo(c), 2000, before me personally came the above-named JERRY AHART to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

Notary Public:
My commission expires:

-5-

Notary Public:
My commission expires: 430/2001

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

TAMARA O. PETROFF

DATE: 3/1/2000

On this day of 2000, before me personally came the above-named TAMARA O. PETROFF to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

Notary Public:
My commission expires:

BRANDON CURIEL

DATE: 3110000

On this \(\frac{5\tau}{2} \) day of \(\frac{100}{1000} \). 2000, before me personally came the above-named BRANDON CURIEL to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

Notary Public:

My commission expires:







COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 2023I
WWW.USP10.GOV

APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING/RECEIPT DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER

09/765,039

01/19/2001

Denson

999999.120

CONFIRMATION NO. 6916

FORMALITIES LETTER

OC00000005819273

PATTON BOGGS LLP 2550 M STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, DC 20037

Date Mailed: 03/02/2001

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is missing.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 65.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- A substitute specification in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52 because:
 - Papers contain improper margins. Each sheet must have a left margin of at least 2.5 cm (1") and top, bottom and right margins of at least 2.0 cm (3/4")

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.



METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

DESCRIPTION

Field of the Invention

This invention relates generally to the field of electronic business posting and negotiated transaction and, more particularly, to a method and apparatus for offering business products and inventory for sale, receiving offers and counter-offers to buy, and conducting transactions for the same.

Description of the Related Art

Ongoing businesses frequently find themselves possessing excess inventory, excess capacity, and idle assets which, if they could be converted into liquid value in an efficient manner, could be properly utilized for the benefit of the business. In addition, when failing businesses begin to wind down, or suddenly collapse, interested parties such as creditors frequently find themselves in possession of hard inventory and specialized business equipment having no immediate value to them, but which could certainly be applied to outstanding debts, if that inventory and idle equipment could be converted to cash. The present inventors have identified estimates of the current worldwide market of such excess assets and inventory, termed "the Surplus Marketplace", of about one trillion dollars. There is not any known standardized, large scale integrated system for general marketing within the Surplus Marketplace. Instead, various niche trades, businesses and operations, including traditional auction companies, liquidators and close-out dealers, have developed to fill the needs of the market. Some of these have migrated, in parts anyway, to the Internet, as "born-on-web" e-tailers, auctions and so called "electronic marketplaces". Even further, a number of barter companies have appeared.

The presently existing market means and business methods for marketing, offering and selling excess and surplus inventory, however, have a number of shortcomings, both from the sellers' and the buyers' perspective. From the buyers' perspective, the shortcomings include lack of information about the seller, including the names of contacts, incomplete description of the goods, incomplete description of the terms and conditions of sale, including payment terms and shipping arrangements. Other shortcomings from the buyers' perspective include: limited geographical range for which the buyer is made aware of sellers' offerings, insufficient means to communicate counter-offers back to the seller, and lack of a practical independent verification of the seller, and lack. From the sellers' perspective the shortcomings include: inability to economically screen buyers, insufficient provisions for negotiating counter-offers with the buyers, insufficient geographical reach of the sellers' offerings, and lack of trusted entities for handling the actual transactions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to solve the above-identified shortcomings with the existing means and business methods for marketing, offering, and selling excess inventory, and surplus goods and equipment and other idle assets.

A general method according to the present invention establishes relational database of offer date records representing registered users, inventory listings by registered users, offers or purchase orders from registered buyers, and the content and activity of business accounts for the users. The method establishes the relational database by receiving a plurality of data records, each having a descriptor data field identifying a commodity and an identify of an offeror. The database then stores the plurality of offer data records. A status flag for each of the plurality of offer data records, indicating whether the inventory listing is for sale, sold, withdrawn, or pending authorization is initializing to a first state. Next the method receives at the

database an inquiry from a buyer computer remote from the database, the inquiry having a search field corresponding to at least a portion of the descriptor data field. The database then selects one or more of the offer data records from said database based on the inquiry search field. Next, the database transmits the selected one or more offer data records, and the status flag associated with the each of the selected one or more data records. to the buyer computer. The database then receives a purchase order data record from the buyer computer. The purchase order data record identifies a buyer and a particular offer data record from the one or more selected offer data records, and has a purchase offer field identifying one or more terms of an offer for purchase of the commodity identified by the descriptor field of the particular offer data record. The database then stores the purchase order data record and transmits a purchase order received data to the offeror identified by the descriptor field of the particular offer data record. The purchase order received data identifies the buyer, identifies an offer of sale corresponding to the particular offer data record, and identifies the one or terms of an offer for purchase. Next, the database receives a seller response data from the offeror, the seller response data having an acceptance field reflecting acceptance of, rejection of, or a counter-offer to the one or more terms of an offer for purchase. The database stores the seller response data and transmits to the buyer a seller response received data, the seller response received data identifying contents of the acceptance field of the seller response data. The database then receives a committed purchase order data from the buyer and changes to a second state the status flag data associated with the particular offer data record.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing and other objects, aspects, and advantages will be better understood from the following description of preferred embodiments of the invention with reference to the drawings, in which:

- Fig. 1 is a system architecture diagram of a an example system according to the present invention;
- Fig. 2 is a general system functional block diagram and flow chart for operation of a method according to the invention;
- Fig. 3 is an example screen arrangement for showing user activity of the Fig. 1 system and Fig. 2 method
- Fig. 4 is an example screen arrangement for showing an account search summary at a step of a method in accordance with Fig. 2;
- Fig. 5 is an example screen arrangement for displaying an account search summary according to Fig. 4, for a search for a first status of offered inventory, orders and accounts;
- Fig. 6 is an example screen arrangement for displaying account details of an account indicated by a search summary in accordance with Fig. 4;
- Fig. 7 is an example screen arrangement for displaying current offers for purchase on a selected inventory posting shown by the account details according to Fig. 6;
- Fig. 8 is an example screen arrangement for displaying a record of offers and counter-offers between users for a selected inventory posting shown by the account details according to Fig. 6; and
- Fig. 9 is an example of a display of a comment field associated with a record of offers and counter-offers according to Fig. 8.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Provisional Application Serial NO. 60/176,127, filed January 14, 2000, on which the present applicant bases priority, is hereby incorporated by reference.

Fig. 1 herein shows an example system diagram for implementing a method according to this invention. The Fig. 1 system includes a site 1 having a front tier 2, a middle tier 4, and a back tier/storage system 6. The front tier 2 comprises the web server hardware and software which provides end-users, which will be described below, with access to the site 1. The middle tier 4 comprises the application server and hardware and software which provides the business logic for carrying out the operations described below. The back tier/storage system 6 comprises the database server and software. The back tier/storage system 6 provides persistent storage of records of site activity, including records received from users and audit logs, as described below.

An example hardware and operating system for the front tier 2 consists of two Sun E250s web servers (not shown), or equivalents, each running Solaris 2.6, and each configured with a single 400 MHz CPU (not shown) with 512 MB of RAM. Example software for carrying out the server operations is Netscape Enterprise Server, or equivalent. The use of two web servers is a design choice based on a balancing of reliability and cost, using criteria well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. A single web server could be used, but with a concomitant reduction in reliability. If two web servers are used then a load balancing subsystem (not shown) should be included, as known to one of ordinary skill. An example of load balancing subsystem comprises a Cisco Local Director (not shown), which provides load balancing and automatic failover between the two web servers.

An example hardware and operating system for the middle tier 4 consists of two Sun E450s servers (not shown), or equivalents, each running Solaris 2.6, and each configured with a single 400 MHz CPU (not shown) with 1GB of RAM. Example software for carrying out the server operations of the

middle tier 4 is BEA WebLogic, preferably with clustering. The clustering feature with the BEA WebLogic is not a necessity but better utilizes the fault tolerance obtained with two servers. The use of two servers in the middle tier 4 is a design choice based on a balancing of reliability and cost, using criteria well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. A single web server could be used, but with a concomitant reduction in reliability.

An example hardware and operating system for the back tier section (not shown) of the back tier/storage system 8 consists of a primary server (not shown) and a secondary server (not shown). An example primary server is a Sun® E3500, with four 400 MHz CPUs, and 1 GB of RAM. An example secondary server is a Sun® E450, with four 400 MHz CPUs and 1 GB of RAM. Example software for carrying out the back tier operations, which are described below, performed by the back tier/storage system 8 is Oracle® 8i Enterprise Edition, Veritas® Database Edition for Oracle with Veritas® Cluster Server.

An example hardware and operating system for the storage section (not shown) of the back tier/storage system 8 consists of a Clariion® 5310 full-fibre channel RAID (Redundant Array of Independent Disks), storage array with six 9 GB drives, for a total storage capacity of 54 GB. Example storage management software is the Clariion® Navisphere™ manager.

The above-described example hardware and software for each of the front tier 2, the middle tier 4 and the back tier/storage system 6 is for purposes of example only. Other alternative commercially available hardware and software could be readily identified and selected by one of ordinary skill in the art.

Referring to Fig. 1, the front tier 2 connects by a Vlan 30 or equivalent data connection (not numbered), to a first router 10 which connects to a first firewall 12. The first firewall 12 provides primary security and address translation and connects to the Internet 14. In a full redundancy and failover arrangement, the front tier 2 also connects by another Vlan 30 or equivalent data connection (not numbered), to a second router 16 which connects to a second firewall 18. The second firewall 18 connects to the Internet 14.

Example implementation of the first and second firewall 12 and 18 is a Pix[™] 520 unit. Example hardware for the first and second routers 10 and 16 is a Catalyst 5505 with Gigabit Ethernet trunking and Rout Switch Failure Card (not shown).

Referring to Fig. 1, redundancy and load balancing between the first and second firewalls 12 and 18, and associated first and second routers 10 and 16, is provided by a first and second load balancing unit, labeled 20 and 22, respectively. Example commercially available load balancing units 20 and 22 include the Local Director[™] unit.

As shown in Fig. 1, a plurality of users 24 connect to the Internet 14, each user having a standard personal computer (not shown), such as, for example, a Dell® Optiplex GX1, having a 300 MHz CPU, running under a Windows NT or Windows 2000 operating system, and having a web browser such as Netscape® Communicator or Windows Internet Explorer.

Referring to Fig. 2 an example operation of the posting and business transaction method of the invention will be described.

First, at block 200 a user 24 of Fig. 1, using a standard personal computer, as identified above, visits the system web site hosted by the site 1, using a standard web browser, such as Netscape Communicator. The user enters an employee ID and a password (not shown). Next, at step 202 the site 1queries the database of the back tier 8 which, for this example, is an Oracle Enterprise, and determines if the login is valid. ID and password based login procedures are known in the art and, therefore, a description is not necessary for an understanding of this invention. If step 202 determines that the login is not valid the system returns the user to the home page of the web site. If step 202 determines that the login is valid the process goes to step 204 to identify the user level, based on the entered employee ID and password. The number of user levels is a design choice. For this example, three user levels are used: first level (which is the lowest order for access privileges), designating a user representative; second level, for user supervisors; and third level, which is for user directors (having the highest access privileges). To persons skilled in the general field of remote access

databases, the schemes for limiting access to system data, enablement of editing capabilities for selected data, and access to system operations based on user level is a well known design feature and, accordingly, the specific method for carrying out such operations do not need description.

As shown at Fig. 2, if step 206 identifies the user as being level three, i.e. a user director, the process goes step 208 which defines additional functions to which that user has access. Since level three is the highest level, the process automatically goes to step 210 and provides the user with the functions accessible to the next higher user privilege, level two, and is then presented with a search page at step 212. If the answer at step 204 is "no" the process goes to step 214 to identify if the user has level two privileges. If the answer is "yes" the process goes to step 210, provides the user with privileges accorded level two, and presents the user the search page at step 212. As seen from Fig. 1, if the user has level one access privileges then he or she would pass, by a consecutive "no" at step 206 and 212, to the search page at step 212.

Referring to Fig. 3, an example search page 300 presented to the user at step 212 is shown. Field 302 is a search field and, at the left side of the screen is a plurality of click fields 304 for initiating labeled operations. One of the click fields within 304 is "Current Activity" 304a. The operation initiated by 304a queries certain activity logs, within the database of the back tier 8 of site 1, unlike the full search effected by clicking the "inventory search" button 302a. In response to the user clicking 304a the screen 300 displays "Inventory I've Posted", at field 306, and "Offers I've Made", at field 308. The example screen 300, based on the current activity shown, reflects a user who acts as both a seller and a buyer. Under "Offer's I've Made" 308 the example shows three account records (not numbered). Each account record contains a Status field, which is described in more detail below. A value of "active", however, means that the seller has not accepted any offer for purchase of the product and, hence, the database within the back tier 8 has not updated the Status flag for that account record. A Status value of "countered" means that the seller posting the product has received a purchase order for the product,

likely containing terms not acceptable to the seller, and that the seller has, accordingly, transmitted a counter-offer to the buyer, through the site 1.

Referring to Fig. 4 an example screen shot 400 is depicted, showing what the user sees after initiating a search request through button 302a to the site 1. The search criteria are entered by the user into the appropriate fields 402. The user then clicks the "search" button 404 and the results, which are all accounts that meet the search criteria, are then obtained by the back tier 8 of site 1, transmitted to the user and displayed in field 406. Referring to Fig. 2, clicking the "search" button 304 moves the process to the search step 216. An example search is shown at Fig. 5, where the user entered into fields "buying status" and "selling status" fields, labeled 402a and 402b, respectively, the value "pending". In response, the back tier 8 of site 1 retrieved and transmitted all postings of goods, and offers for purchase of goods, that have a status flag of "pending". As described in further detail below, a status value of "pending" means that the posting of the goods, or the purchase order for goods, has been received by site 1 but not validated for transmittal to the other users. Stated differently, a Status value of Pending means that approval for transmittal is pending. The validation feature and the associated Status value are not mandatory for inclusion in the system of the this invention, but are preferred.

Referring to Fig. 2, after the search step at 216 the user can click on any of the retrieved accounts appearing in field 406 of Fig. 4, or on any of the accounts that appeared in the current activity fields 306 or 308 of Fig. 3. In response the process goes to the account detail page at step 218, and the site 1 rear tier 8 will retrieve the information shown at the Account Details screen 600 of Fig. 6. The details include, for example, the Audit Trail 602, Comment Trail 604, Inventory Posted 606, and Orders Placed 608. In addition, as shown at Fig. 7, the user can obtain particular information about a seller's posting such as current purchase orders 702, which are offers for purchase, received from buyers. As seen from Fig. 7, the described examples of this invention maintains anonymity of the buyers associated with each of the purchase orders 702.

Referring to Fig. 2, when the user at step 218 is presented with the account detail page of Fig. 6, the user can click and obtain a Talk Box screen from the site 1 having, as shown at field 802 of Fig. 8, the record of the user's dialog, meaning offers and counteroffers, with the other user. In addition, the user can click at field 804 to obtain the profile of the other user. Referring to Fig. 9, the Talk Box can, at the user's choice, include the record 902 of the both the user's and the other user's comments associated with the offers and counteroffers.

Referring to Fig. 2, the user at step 218 has the further option, by clicking on the labeled fields in the browser display, of proceeding to step 220 and obtaining an editable page of all inventory fields of the user's offer for sale of a product. The user may also proceed to step 222 and obtain an editable page of details of the user's purchase order or offer to purchase. Further, the user can proceed to step 224 and obtain an e-mail page (not shown) having a drop down list box of all contacts for the selected account. the page also contains a drop down combination box for the subject of the e-mail. If the user selects on a predefined e-mail subject, the selection will pre-fill the text area with the e-mail template text. The user is presented with the option of entering a new subject for the e-mail and new text. The user is also presented with a send button (not shown). Also, on the same page there is a history of e-mails sent. The table will have a re-send button, for example, at the right of each row. If the user clicks on a table row, the fields of the e-mail section will be populated with the date of the e-mail previously sent.

Referring to Fig. 2, when the user is presented with the Account Detail page of Fig. 6, the user has the Audit Trail Field 602. The user may. accordingly, proceed to step 226 and view the audit trail for the particular account.

It is to be understood that the present invention is described above in reference to specific embodiments, which are for purposes of example only, and that the invention is not limited to the specific arrangement, or configuration described hereinabove or shown in the drawings, but also comprises the various modifications readily apparent to one skilled in the art

upon reading this specification, as defined by the broadest scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for posting offerings for goods and services and for receiving and negotiating responses, comprising:

receiving a plurality of offer data records at a database, from one or more seller computers remote from said database, each having a descriptor data field identifying a commodity and an identify of an offeror;

storing said plurality of offer data records into said database;

initializing to a first state a status flag data associated with each of said plurality of offer data records;

receiving at said database an inquiry from a buyer computer remote from said database, said inquiry having a search field corresponding to at least a portion of said descriptor data field;

selecting one or more of said offer data records from said database based on said search field;

transmitting said selected one or more offer data records, and said status flag associated with the each of the selected one or more data records, to said buyer computer;

receiving at said database a purchase order data record from said buyer computer, said purchase order data record identifying a buyer and a particular offer data record from said one or more selected offer data records, and having a purchase offer field identifying one or more terms of an offer for purchase of the commodity identified by the descriptor field of said particular offer data record;

storing said purchase order data record in said database;

transmitting a purchase order received data to the offeror identified by the descriptor field of said particular offer data record, said purchase order received data identifying said buyer, identifying an offer of sale corresponding to said particular offer data record, and identifying said one or terms of an offer for purchase;

receiving at said database a seller response data from said offeror, said seller response data having an acceptance field reflecting acceptance of,

rejection of, or a counter-offer to said one or more terms of an offer for purchase;

storing said seller response data in said database;

transmitting to said buyer a seller response received data, said seller response received data identifying contents of the acceptance field of said seller response data;

receiving at said database a committed purchase order data from said buyer; and

changing to a second state the status flag data associated with said particular offer data record.



METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electronic business posting and negotiated transaction system for offering business products and inventory for sale, receiving offers and counter-offers to buy, and conducting transactions for the same. The system utilizes a web-based relational database which receives, qualifies, and stores postings of business products, and receives, qualifies and responds to search queries for postings. The system receives, qualifies and transmits offers for purchase to sellers, transmits counter-offers, and maintains a searchable record of the communications and of the status of the posted goods.



March 30, 2001

Certified Mail

Mr. Brandon Curiel 9234 Town Walk Drive Hamden, CT 06518

Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

Application Serial No.: 09/765,039

Dear Mr. Curiel:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

Pursuant to the terms of the Assignment that you executed in March 2000, please sign the enclosed Declaration in the space identified as **Inventor's Signature**, located directly beneath your name. If your address has changed, please note any changes on a separate sheet of paper, not on the Declaration itself.

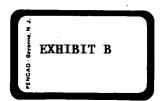
I would appreciate your returning the executed Declaration to my attention no later than April 10. A self-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached directly at (203) 388-3526.

Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti General Counsel

Enclosure



Certified Mail

Ms. Janice D. Denson 1045 Mason Street Unit 202 San Francisco, CA 94108

Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

Application Serial No.: 09/765,039

Dear Jan:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti General Counsel

Enclosure

Mr. Bernard J. Lidestri 165 Henry Street Manchester, MA 06040

Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

Application Serial No.: 09/765,039

Dear Bernie:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti General Counsel

Mr. Gregory Manoni 300 Cold Spring Road Apartment C409 Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

Application Serial No.: 09/765,039

Dear Mr. Manoni:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti General Counsel

Mr. Jerry Ahart 2752 Hollymead Drive Charlottesville, VA 22911

Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

Application Serial No.: 09/765,039

Dear Mr. Ahart:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti General Counsel

Mr. Michael James Caughey 6419 Hackney Circle Richmond, VA 23234

Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

Application Serial No.: 09/765,039

Dear Mr. Caughey:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti General Counsel

Ms. Tamara Petroff 2111 S. Gaffey Street Apartment 3 San Pedro, CA 90731

Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

Application Serial No.: 09/765,039

Dear Ms. Petroff:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

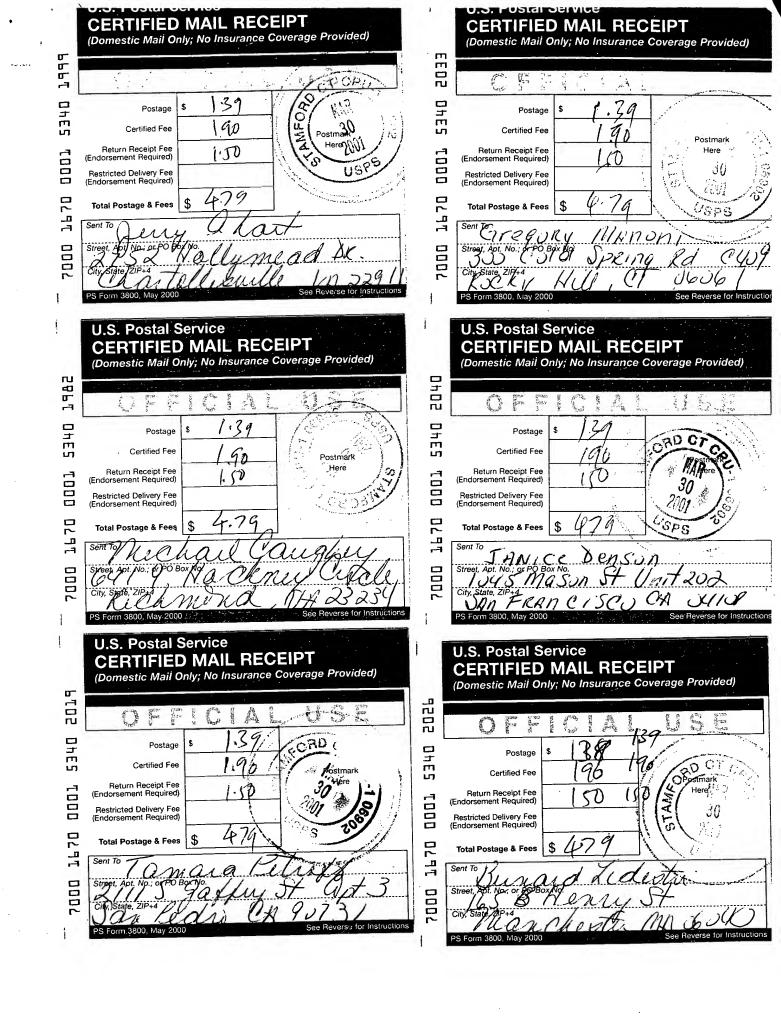
Pursuant to the terms of the Assignment that you executed in March 2000, please sign the enclosed Declaration in the space identified as **Inventor's Signature**, located directly beneath your name. If your address has changed, please note any changes on a separate sheet of paper, not on the Declaration itself.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti General Counsel



U.S. Postal Service
CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT
(Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

Postage
Certified Fee
Return Receipt Fee
(Endorsement Required)
Restricted Delivery Fee
(Endorsement Required)
Total Postage & Fees

Sent To
Street, Apt. No.; or PO-Bex No.
City, State, ZIP+4

PS Form 3800. May 2000

See Reverse for Instructions

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2. Article Number (Copy from service (abel) 7 000 /6 7 0000 5 900 PS Form 3811, July 1999 Domestic F	M. Deardon Cuca 9234 Townedad & Nomiden, OT & ST	 Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. Article Addressed to: 	SENDED COMPLETE THE SECTION	2. Article Number (Copy from service label) 5340 2026 7000 1670 000 PS Form 3811, July 1999 Domestic Return Receipt	Marchesta MA	or on the front if space permits. Article Addressed to: Article Addressed to:	ENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece.
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iSolve Incorporated 2 Stamford Plaza 281 Tresser Boulevard Stamford, CT 06901





5340 0001

Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.

Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece,

Signature

D. Is delivery address different from item 1?

☐ Agent☐ Addressee☐ Yes☐ No

If YES, enter delivery address below:

A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) B. Date of Delivery Moved Not Fernanda

Oo not remail to the state Mr. Gregory Manoni 300 Cold Spring Road Apartment C409 Rocky Hill, CT 66667

370 2000

PS Form 3811, July 1999

Domestic Return Receipt

Certified Mail
Registered
Insured Mail

Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)

Express Mail
Return Receipt for Merchandise □ Yes

102595-00-M-0952

ioolve com

iSolve Incorporated

2 Stamford Plaza 281 Tresser Boulevard Stamford CT 06001





5340



102595-00-M-0952 ☐ Agent☐ Addressee☐ Yes B. Date of Delivery A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) Certified Mail
Registered
Insured Mail C. Signature Domestic Return Receipt Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece. service label) or on the front if space permits. ps Form 3811, July 1999

Apartment 3 San Pedro, CA iSolve Incorporated 2 Stamford Plaza 281 Tresser Boulevard Stamford, CT 06901

Form 3811, July 1999

Domestic Return Receipt

102595-00-M-0952



0840	
/7000 1670 0001 5340 1	95

Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

Article Addressed to:

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

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A Holyman

A Holyman

Certified Mail
Registered
Insured Mail

Express Mail

Return Receipt for Merchandise

C.O.D.

Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)

☐ Yes

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☐ Address	×
□ Agent	C. Signature
B. Date of Delive	A. Received by (Please Print Clearly)
VERY	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

Mr. Jerry Ahart 2752 Holfymead D Charlottesville, V JUL 0 2 2001 E

From:

Petroff, Tamara [tamara.petroff@tallan.com]

Sent:

Saturday, April 14, 2001 6:07 PM

To:

dcondon@isolve.com

Subject:

RE: Almost Famous

Hi Donna!

My current home address is:

74 Wood Pond Road Glastonbury, CT 06033

However, if it's possible to send to another address, I am on assignment at the following address:

Sygnus Court Market Street Maidenhead Berkshire SL6 8AD UK

It would be easier if you could send it to me in the UK.

Thanks, Tamara

----Original Message-----

From:

Lidestri, Bernie [mailto:bernie.lidestri@tallan.com]

Sent:

Friday, April 13, 2001 5:01 PM

To:

Manoni, Greg; Petroff, Tamara; Caughey, Michael; Ahart, Jerry

Cc:

'Donna Condon'; Bourdon, Pete; 'Demetroulakos, Bibi'; Rivard, Doug

Subject:

Almost Famous

Importance: High

Hello to all!

Believe it or not the iSolve provisional patent application that was filed last year has gone to the next step. iSolve has filed a utility patent application which needs our signatures. A package of information is being sent to your homes. Please send Donna Condon (see Cc above) your current home address so that she can get packages sent to each of you.

DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING YET.

I need to get a copy to our legal counsel first. I'll get back to you once I hear back from legal. Hope all is well.

...Bernie

EXHIBIT D

Donna Condon

From: Ahart, Jerry [jerry.ahart@tallan.com]

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2001 12:35 PM

To: DCondon@iSolve.com Subject: FW: Almost Famous

Importance: High

Donna,

In regards to sending the package to me, my mailing address is:

Jerry Ahart PO Box 7079 Charlottesville, VA 22902

Thanks,

--jerry

----Original Message-----

From: Lidestri, Bernie [mailto:bernie.lidestri@tallan.com]

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2001 12:01 PM

To: Manoni, Greg; Petroff, Tamara; Caughey, Michael; Ahart, Jerry

Cc: 'Donna Condon'; Bourdon, Pete; 'Demetroulakos, Bibi'; Rivard, Doug

Subject: Almost Famous

Importance: High

Hello to all!

Believe it or not the iSolve provisional patent application that was filed last year has gone to the next step. iSolve has filed a utility patent application which needs our signatures. A package of information is being sent to your homes. Please send Donna Condon (see Cc above) your current home address so that she can get packages sent to each of you.

DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING YET.

I need to get a copy to our legal counsel first. I'll get back to you once I hear back from legal.

Hope all is well.

...Bernie



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PS Form 38

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Donna Condon From: Lidestri, Bernie [bernie lidestri@tallan.com]

Friday, April 13, 2001 12:01 PM Sent:

Manoni, Greg; Petroff, Tamara; Caughey, Michael; Ahart, Jerry To: 'Donna Condon'; Bourdon, Pete; 'Demetroulakos, Bibi'; Rivard, Doug Cc:

Subject: Almost Famous

Importance: High

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DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING YET.

I need to get a copy to our legal counsel first. I'll get back to you once I hear back from legal.

Hope all is well.

...Bernie

EXHIBIT F

PATTON BOGGS LLP



2550 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20037-1350 202-457-6000

Facsimile 202-457-6315 www.pattonboggs.com

Laurence E. Stein 202-457-6491 lstein@pattonboggs.com

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. Janice D. Denson 1045 Mason Street, Unit 202 San Francisco, CA 94108



Re:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039

Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS

POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"

Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Ms. Denson:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

The regulations governing examination of applications by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) require your signature on the enclosed Declaration, which states that you are one of the joint inventors. iSolve therefore asks that you sign and return the enclosed Declaration to me so that I can file it in the USPTO. For your convenience I have enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope.

PATTON BOGGS LLP

2550 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20037-1350 202-457-6000

Facsimile 202-457-6315 www.pattonboggs.com

June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein 202-457-6491 lstein@pattonboggs.com

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Bernard J. Lidestri 165 Henry Street Manchester, MA 06040

Re:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039

Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS

POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"

Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Lidestri:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

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PATTON BOGGS LLP

2550 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20037-1350 202-457-6000

Facsimile 202-457-6315 www.pattonboggs.com

June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein 202-457-6491 lstein@pattonboggs.com

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Gregory D. Manoni 300 Cold Spring Road, Apt. C409 Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Re:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039

Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS

POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"

Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Manoni:

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June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein 202-457-6491 lstein@pattonboggs.com

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Jerry Ahart 220 A Shamrock Road Charlottesville, VA 22903

Re:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039

Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS

POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"

Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Ahart:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

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Facsimile 202-457-6315 www.pattonboggs.com

June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein 202-457-6491 lstein@pattonboggs.com

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Michael J. Caughey 6419 Hackney Circle Richmond, VA 23234

Re:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039

Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS

POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"

Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Caughey:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

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June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein 202-457-6491 lstein@pattonboggs.com

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. Tamara O. Petroff 74 Wood Pond Road Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039

Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS

POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"

Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Ms. Petroff:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

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Facsimile 202-457-6315 www.pattonboggs.com

June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein 202-457-6491 lstein@pattonboggs.com

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Brandon Curiel 427 Boston Street Guilford, CT 06437

Re:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039

Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS

POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"

Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Curiel:

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DECLARATION

ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)
Supplemental Sheet
Page 3 of 3

					
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if a	ny:	A petition has been file	ed for this unsigned inventor		
Given Name (first and middle [if any)	Family Name or Surname			
Michael James		Caughey			
Inventor's Signature			Date		
Residence: City Richmond	State VA	Country US	Citizenship US		
Mailing Address 6419 Hackney Circle					
Mailing Address					
city Richmond	State VA	ZIP 23234 (Country US		
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if ar		A petition has been filed	for this unsigned inventor		
Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Nan	ne or Surname		
Tamara Olga		Petroff			
Inventor's Signature			Date		
Residence: City Glastonbury	State CT	Country US	Citizenship US		
Mailing Address 74 Wood Pond Road					
Mailing Address					
City Glastonbury	State CT	_{ZIP} 06033	Country		
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if an	ny: [A petition has been filed	for this unsigned inventor		
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname			
Brandon		Curiel			
Inventor's Signature			Date 6/11/01		
Residence: City Guilford	State CT	Country US	Citizenship		
Mailing Address 427 Boston Street					
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City Guilford	State CT	_{ZIP} 06437	Country		

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	3. Septice Type Certified Mail	If YES, enter delivery address below:		7) 551 7 um Receipt 102595-00-M-0952	3. Service Type Certified Mail		A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) C. Signature C. Signature D. Is delivery address different from item 17	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY
2. Article Number (Copy from service label) 7,000 (670 0000 08	601LEOR) CT 6643)	ME BICHNIDON QURIEL 427 BOSTON ST.	Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the malipiece, or on the front if space permits.	2. Arti: PS Fo:	SAN FRANCICO CA 94108	MS JANICE D. DENSON 1845 MASON ST. #202	 Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailplece, or on the front if space permits. 1. Article Addressed to: 	SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION
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ATTON BOGGS I

ATTORNEYS AT LAW 2550 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20037-1350

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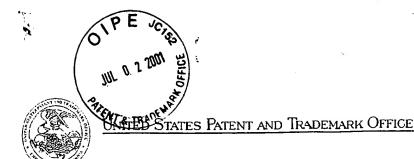


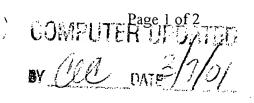
Ms. Tamara O. Petroff 74 Wood Pond Road Glastonbury, CT 06033





06033-3702 01





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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING/RECEIPT DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER

09/765,039

01/19/2001

Denson

999999.120

CONFIRMATION NO. 6916

FORMALITIES LETTER

OC000000005819273

PATTON BOGGS LLP 2550 M STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, DC 20037

Date Mailed: 03/02/2001

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- · The oath or declaration is missing.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 65.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- A substitute specification in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52 because:
 - Papers contain improper margins. Each sheet must have a left margin of at least 2.5 cm (1") and top, bottom and right margins of at least 2.0 cm (3/4")

A copy of this notice <u>MUST</u> be returned with the reply.

